From: Devereux, Jan
To: Kathy Roberts
Subject: Re: Council meeting Agenda item
Date: Monday, April 16, 2018 7:34:03 AM

Thank you, Kathy. I had not known about your family history. Knowing it helps me better understand your perspective and your involvement in human rights issues.

Jan

Jan Devereux
Vice Mayor
Cambridge, MA
jdevereux@cambridgema.gov

For updates on City Council issues and events visit http://jandevereux.com/

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From: Kathy Roberts <kathyroberts4@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, April 15, 2018 2:03:11 PM
To: City Council
Cc: Clerk
Subject: Council meeting Agenda item

Dear Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and Cambridge City Councilors,
In support of human rights, I write to urge you to end the Cambridge's conract with the Hewlett Packard Corporation.
I am the daughter of a refugee (Burning of Smyrna , Greece 1922-now Izmir Turkey.) At 13 years old my mother had an idyllic life in the cosmopolitan port city, Smyrna, until that horrific event in her life when all the adult men in our family were murdered during the attack by the invading Turkish army. The story of her struggle and the eventual path through Ellis Island to this country, fostered by the Red Cross which found my family hiding in a cemetery, is a major impetus for my strong belief in human rights , with full dignity, understanding, and compassion extended to everyone.
At times it is like peeling an onion with the differences of opinion blurring the focus of the key issue. My children and grandchildren have had the benefit of growing up in Cambridge where they learned to respect leaders

who stood by principles and celebrated diversity. They witnessed their parents involvement in the civil rights struggles which led to their involvement in the South African Anti Apartheid Campaign, the Sanctuary Movement in the 80's, and now campaigns for refugees, immigrants, and the over incarcerated people of color.

In 2007 I was on a human rights delegation to Bethlehem, Palestine, carrying greetings from the Cambridge City Council. In 2009, in response to our visit, children from the Theatre program in the Aida refugee camp in Bethlehem came to Cambridge for 2 weeks to participate in the youth program at the Central Square Theater. The Cambridge Bethlehem People to People Project has continued its important relationship with our friends in the Aida camp in Bethlehem. Their aspirations for freedom and peace are grounded in HOPE for the future.

The unethical use of technology by Hewlett Packard to support the occupation and apartheid of the Palestinians, as well as the tracking of immigrants in the US, and the control mechanisms in US prisons is immoral and I ask that Cambridge not re-contract with Hewlett Packard. It is important to square business and ethical practices.

My issue with the policies of the government of Israel is about apartheid and discrimination. My beloved adult granddaughter's great grandparents died in Auschwitz and their activism in resistance to discrimination and oppression of Palestinians is honoring their Jewish values and ancestors.

The use of BDS is a peaceful form of Palestinian resistance to oppression, and boycotts are a time honored free speech tradition.

Your consideration is appreciated,

Kathy Roberts
321 Huron Ave.